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Signature:

(Andrew T. Ziden)

- ① Not Entered
- ② WSC
- ③ 7/2/2006

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 2131

Docket No. : SONYTA 3.3-139

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Asano et al.

Application No.: 09/937,120

Filed: December 17, 2001

For: DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS AND
DATA PROCESSING METHOD

: Group Art Unit: 2131

: Examiner: L. Chai

REPLY PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 29, 2006, finally rejecting claims 1, 4-9, 12-16, 19, 22-26, 29-33, 36, 39-43 and 46, the following reply is presented with respect to the above-identified U.S. patent application.